

published a general notice in the Federal Register on Wednesday, July 5, 1995 (60 FR 35103), which advised that estimated duties would have to be deposited on imported merchandise which was entered, or withdrawn from warehouse, for consumption after July 31, 1995. Since it was expected that the GSP would be renewed with retroactive effect, Customs developed a mechanism to facilitate refunds: it was explained that filers who file entry summaries through the Automated Broker Interface (ABI) could automatically request a refund of the duty deposited by using the Special Program Indicator (SPI) for the GSP (the letter "A") on the entry summary documentation. Such ABI filers were advised that if they followed these procedures, they would not have to request a refund in writing if the GSP were to be renewed with retroactive effect.

Entries subject to the above procedure were liquidated with refunds plus interest on October 4th, 18th, and 25th and November 1st of 1996 and checks were issued. Lists of those entries that were filed in accordance with the published procedures, but which were not processed on one of the dates indicted above, were sent to each port for issuance of refunds.

#### Outstanding Claims

Filers who followed the published ABI procedures should have received their refunds. Such persons who have not yet received their refunds should write a letter to the port director of the port where the goods were entered or withdrawn. The letter may cover either single entry summaries or all entry summaries filed by an individual filer at a single port and should include the following information:

(1) A request for a refund as provided for in the 1996 Act;

(2) The entry numbers and line items for which refunds need to be issued; and

(3) The amount to be refunded for each line item and the total amount owed for all entries.

This procedure should also be used by anyone who did not request an automatic refund in accordance with the GSP program procedure published in the Federal Register on July 5, 1995. All requests must be filed on or before February 16, 1997.

Approved: January 22, 1997.

Audrey Adams,

*Acting Assistant Commissioner, Office of Field Operations.*

[FR Doc. 97-1893 Filed 1-24-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4820-02-P

---

## DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

### Persian Gulf Expert Scientific Committee; Meeting

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), in accordance with Pub. L. 92-463, gives notice that a meeting of the VA Persian Gulf Expert Scientific Committee will be held on:

Monday, February 3, 1997, at 8:30 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Tuesday, February 4, 1997, at 8:30 a.m. – noon

The location of the meeting will be 810 Vermont Avenue, NW., Washington, DC, Room 230.

The Committee's objectives are to advise the Under Secretary for Health about medical findings affecting Persian Gulf era veterans.

At this meeting the Committee will review all aspects of patient care and medical diagnoses and will provide professional consultation as needed. The Committee may advise on other

areas involving research and development, veterans benefits and/or training aspects for patients and staff.

All portions of the meeting will be open to the public except from 4 p.m. until 5 p.m. on February 3 and from 11 a.m. to 12 noon on February 4, 1997. During these executive sessions, discussions and recommendations will deal with medical records of specific patients and individually identifiable patient medical histories. The disclosure of this information would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy. Closure of this portion of the meeting is in accordance with subsection 10(d) of Pub. L. 92-463, as amended by Pub. L. 94-409, and as cited in 5 U.S.C. 552b(c)(6).

The agenda for February 3 will begin with an update on recent events, followed by responses from Committee members. The first day's agenda will also cover reports on activities of the Persian Gulf Registry Program, a report on the Presidential Advisory Committee Report, Stress Issues Among Persian Gulf veterans and Toxicological Considerations in the Persian Gulf.

On February 4 the Committee will hear reports on the Persian Gulf Study in Iowa as well as the report of a study on Exposures and Symptomatology Among Select Persian Gulf Veterans.

Additional information concerning these meetings may be obtained from the Executive Secretary, Office of Public Health & Environmental Hazards, 810 Vermont Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20420.

Dated: January 16, 1997.

By direction of the Secretary.

Heyward Bannister,

*Committee Management Officer.*

[FR Doc. 97-1817 Filed 1-24-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8320-01-M